

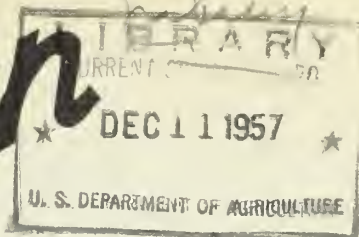
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# Foreign



# CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1957

VOLUME 75

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## FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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## VENEZUELAN CIGARETTE OUTPUT CONTINUES UPWARD

Output of cigarettes in Venezuela continued its upward trend through the first quarter of 1957. Production amounted to 899 million pieces and was 9.5 percent larger than the January-March 1956 level of 821 million

Cigarette output during calendar 1956, totaling 3,392 million pieces, was more than double the 1935-39 annual average of 1,591 million. Output of the "light" type of cigarettes continues to rise and represents about 85 percent of the total production in contrast to less than 3 percent prewar. Production of the "black" type of cigarettes, which had been declining since prewar, turned upward in 1954 and continued to rise through the first quarter of 1957. Although the output of cigarettes is increasing, it covers only about 75 percent of the demand, with most of the remainder imported from the United States.

## RAINS REDUCE IRANIAN 1957 TOBACCO CROP

Unseasonable October rains in most of Iran's cigarette tobacco growing area were reportedly detrimental to the crop. Production of cigarette tobacco is now forecast at 24.5 million pounds, down about 20 percent from an earlier estimate of 30.4 million.

Trade sources indicate that Iran is negotiating with the U.S.S.R. and the United Kingdom for the export of 11.0 and 1.1 million pounds of leaf tobacco, respectively. No confirmation has been received of any definite agreement.

## SQUATTER PROBLEM INCREASING ON INDONESIAN ESTATES

Increasing numbers of landless farmers are settling on tobacco estate lands in Indonesia. In many cases they have taken over, and tobacco production on the estates has declined sharply. This problem is becoming more acute, as the government is unable to remove existing squatters or to prevent the influx of additional illegal settlers.

Many growers foresee the end of plantation production if strong countermeasures are not applied soon. This illegal settlement has been in process for several years but is now a severe problem to exchange starved Indonesia. Estates produce most of the better cigar tobaccos for export and are major foreign exchange earners. One large plantation that plans to close this year, unless the situation improves, has in the past produced tobacco that yielded the equivalent of more than U.S. \$15 million annually.

## INDIA'S CIGARETTE OUTPUT UP

Cigarette output in India continued upward through the first 3 months of 1957. Production amounted to 6.95 billion pieces, and was 12 percent larger than the January-March 1956 level of 6.19 billion.

SOUTH AFRICA'S OUTPUT OF TOBACCO  
PRODUCTS UP 5 PERCENT

Output of tobacco products in the Union of South Africa during January-April 1957, totaling 15.1 million pounds, was 5 percent greater than the 14.4 million produced during the comparable period last year. Production of all products, except cigars, was larger than the January-April 1956 levels. Cigarette output totaling 7.85 million pounds, was about 7 percent larger than the 7.36 million produced during the first 4 months of 1956. Production of pipe tobacco amounted to 7.3 million pounds, compared with 7.0 million last year.

BOLIVIA REDUCES TOBACCO  
EXCISE TAXES

A recent government decree in Bolivia has reduced the excise tax on tobacco products from 70 to 60 percent ad valorem. Recent depreciation of the boliviano has raised the cost of imported tobacco, but the reduced excise tax will remove the need to increase retail prices.

LOW QUALITY TURKISH TOBACCO  
CROP IN AEGEAN REGION

The 1957 Turkish tobacco crop is reported to be of generally poor quality in the Aegean area of Turkey. Heavy spring rains followed by an unusually hot summer affected production of good quality oriental leaf in the Aegean region, which is the major tobacco area of Turkey.

U.S. TALLOW EXPORTS  
DOWN SLIGHTLY

United States exports of inedible tallow and greases during January-September 1957 totaled 1,106 million pounds, compared with 1,162 million pounds shipped during the corresponding period in 1956.

Asia was the only major marketing area to increase tallow purchases over this period. Exports to Europe, which accounted for about 60 percent of U.S. tallow trade in 1956, were down about 6 percent, and exports to Africa were down 19 percent. The overall decrease in trade resulted primarily from higher U.S. prices and a decline in tallow exported under Public Law 480.

INEDIBLE TALLOW AND GREASES 1/ : U.S. exports, by country of destination,  
average 1935-39, annual 1955-56, and January-September 1956-57

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1955	1956 2/	January - September		
				1956 2/	1957 2/	1957 Increase or decrease (-)
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
North America:						
Canada.....	4,352	20,481	26,604	14,892	13,293	- 1,599
Cuba.....	1,076	29,269	39,176	27,193	18,968	- 8,225
Dominican Republic	264	3,084	3,843	2,591	2,619	28
El Salvador.....	---	5,478	3,947	3,089	1,630	- 1,459
Guatemala.....	196	3,553	5,075	3,881	4,294	413
Mexico.....	266	53,134	58,906	38,283	21,896	- 16,387
Other.....	360	7,569	6,418	5,423	5,133	- 290
Total.....	6,514	122,568	143,969	95,352	67,833	- 27,519
Europe:						
Austria.....	3/	5,358	7,670	5,610	3,647	- 1,963
Belgium-Luxembourg	500	68,936	71,656	51,065	28,487	- 22,578
France.....	70	16,816	4,533	3,272	8,952	5,680
Germany, Fed. Rep.						
3/ 4/.....	98	109,703	139,644	113,039	62,529	- 50,510
Ireland.....	2	8,982	5,925	5,869	754	- 5,115
Italy.....	308	190,654	272,353	206,815	168,104	- 38,711
Netherlands.....	1,364	261,968	237,975	191,496	186,953	- 4,543
Norway.....	98	3,276	2,677	2,452	4	- 2,448
Poland.....	0	1,741	16,017	15,121	61,355	46,234
Spain.....	0	7,441	31,553	29,048	35,091	6,043
Switzerland.....	112	29,201	29,306	20,723	13,230	- 7,493
United Kingdom....	514	6,359	18,331	12,119	6,047	- 6,072
Yugoslavia.....	2	23,944	24,117	24,117	24,547	430
Other.....	230	8,936	23,185	14,675	5/ 56,400	41,725
Total.....	3,298	743,315	884,942	695,421	656,100	- 39,321
Asia:						
Japan.....	102	203,161	211,152	168,351	185,806	17,455
Korea.....	---	16,329	18,007	17,877	9,583	- 8,294
Philippines.....	50	12,193	13,906	10,946	10,121	- 825
Formosa.....	---	23,609	27,297	16,847	16,892	45
Other.....	58	19,898	21,151	15,281	6/ 40,537	25,256
Total.....	210	275,190	291,513	229,302	262,939	33,637
Africa:						
Egypt.....	4	36,833	49,499	42,164	48,812	6,648
Rhodesia-Nyasaland	---	5,053	5,978	4,918	2,095	- 2,823
Un. of So. Af.....	14	59,283	68,836	52,844	32,365	- 20,479
Other.....	---	5,039	8,268	7/ 7,514	7/ 3,719	- 3,795
Total.....	18	106,208	132,581	107,440	86,991	- 20,449
South America:						
Chile.....	6	6,961	4,931	4,568	157	- 4,411
Colombia.....	82	23,889	12,274	7,873	11,077	3,204
Ecuador.....	2	7,736	9,940	7,838	7,650	- 188
Peru.....	38	9,723	10,907	8,123	8,451	328
Other.....	60	7,007	8,354	6,045	5,067	- 978
Total.....	188	55,316	46,406	34,447	32,402	- 2,045
Australia & Oceania :	96	---	---	---		
World total.....	10,324	1,302,597	1,499,411	1,161,962	1,106,265	- 55,697

1/ Includes: Inedible tallow, inedible animal greases and fats, inedible animal oils, nes, neatsfoot oils and stocks, oleic acid or red oil and stearic acid. 2/ Preliminary.

3/ Austria included with Germany. 4/ Prior to January 1952, reported as Germany.

5/ Includes approximately 26 million lbs. to U.S.S.R., 9 million to Hungary, 2 million to Czechoslovakia, 8 million to Latvia, and 9 million to Greece.

6/ U.S. exported approximately 35 million pounds to Turkey. 7/ Includes a small quantity, the final destination not known.

## IRELAND REOPENS MEAT PLANT

The Shannon Meat Packing Company of Rathkeale, Ireland, which has been closed for about 9 months, has reopened. The plant is now preparing chilled meat for shipment to Spain, according to the Meat Trades' Journal (see Foreign Crops and Markets, October 7, 1957). The firm is reported to be shipping about 340,000 pounds of chilled beef to Spain every 5 days. About 1,000 head of cattle per week are expected to be processed for the Spanish trade.

## AUSTRALIA SEEKS NEW MEAT MARKETS

Australia has applied to the United Kingdom for an increase in "free quota" shipments of meat to markets outside the United Kingdom. Under the provisions of the United Kingdom-Australian Fifteen Year Meat Agreement, all Australian meat exports go to the United Kingdom except a periodically revised "free quota" available for shipment to other countries. The "free quota" now stands at 15,000 long tons.

Due to the serious drought now affecting Australia, large numbers of livestock have been slaughtered in recent months to reduce pressure on drought-stricken ranges (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 4, 1957.) The increase in livestock for slaughter has been so great that many slaughter plants are having trouble coping with the large runs. As the drought has progressed, the quality of livestock slaughtered has dropped. Many of the animals now being slaughtered are being processed by canning plants or boned for export as manufacturing-meat.

If the "free quota" is increased, Australia plans to step up exports of canned meats and manufacturing-beef to Asia, especially Japan, and to the United States.

TRUCK-TRAINS TRANSPORT  
CATTLE IN AUSTRALIA

Latest-style truck-trains for moving cattle in Australia are 145 feet long, have 42 tires, and carry 86 head of full-grown cattle per load, according to the Meat Producer and Exporter (Sydney).

Each truck-train-unit consists of a truck or tractor towing two 40-foot trailers. Each tractor has 4 sets of dual driving wheels. The diesel engine develops 250-brake horsepower at 2,100 r.p.m. The trucks have 18 forward gears, power steering, and foam rubber upholstery in the cab. Each trailer has 8 sets of dual wheels and will hold about 33 cattle.

Two truck-trains are now in operation, transporting both feeder and slaughter cattle the 390 miles from Helen Springs, in the Northern Territory, to Mount Isa, in Queensland. The trip is about 25 hours by truck instead of 5 or 6 weeks by cattle trail. Fat cattle will then go by rail to Townsville for slaughter; the feeder cattle will be fattened locally. Trucking operations are still hampered, however, by bad roads.

## LESS CATTLE ON FEED IN CANADA

Direct interprovincial shipments of feeder cattle bought by feeders from stockyards in Canada were low during October. Less than 50,000 head were reported during September 28-November 2, 1957--a drop of about 43 percent from the comparable period last year.

Feeder cattle continued to be exported to the United States in large numbers during October. Keen competition between Canadian and U. S. buyers kept feeder cattle prices firm throughout October. Slaughter cattle prices declined and were generally below feeder cattle prices.

## CATTLE NUMBERS DROP IN ARGENTINA

Recent Argentine census returns for the province of Buenos Aires, an important cattle breeding and fattening area, indicate that cattle numbers there may have dropped from the unusually high levels of 1956 and that meat production during the coming months may be reduced. The sharp reduction in stocks in Buenos Aires is attributed to heavy cattle slaughter in 1956 and early 1957.

U. S. EXPORTS OF MOHAIR  
SLIGHTLY LOWER

United States shipments of wool-like specialty hair, almost entirely mohair, during the first 9 months of 1957, were slightly below the record levels of 1956, but still higher than the total for any previous year. Prior to 1954, less than a million pounds was exported annually. A sharp decline in exports to the Netherlands was offset by a rise in shipments to Belgium and Japan.

MOHAIR: U. S. exports by country of destination, annual 1954-56  
and January-September 1956 and 1957  
(Clean content)

Country	Annual			January-September	
	1954	1955	1956	1956	1957
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
United Kingdom.....	1,017	3,866	7,789	5,186	5,112
Netherlands.....	1,053	1,765	2,482	1,908	1,199
Belgium.....	254	227	946	689	1,243
Canada.....	142	107	97	87	47
Japan.....	0	0	217	142	329
Others.....	70	88	304	248	152
Total.....	2,536	6,053	11,835	8,260	8,082

## BEEF BREEDS MAKE UP TWO-THIRDS OF U. S. CATTLE EXPORTS

Two out of 3 head of cattle exported from the United States in the first half of 1957 were beef breeds, according to a special analysis of inspection data by the Foreign Agricultural Service. During January-June 1957, Department of Agriculture inspections of all breeding cattle for export totaled 32,184 head, of which 21,370 were beef breeds.

The most popular beef breed shipped abroad was the Hereford (11,023), followed by Brahman (5,195) Santa Gertrudis (2,699), Aberdeen Angus (1,122), and Brangus (548).

The most popular dairy breeds exported were Holstein (4,848), Brown Swiss (1,448) Jersey (513), and Guernsey (286).

Sixty percent of all the beef cattle and 91 percent of the dairy cattle exported were females. Sixty-five percent of the beef cattle and 77 percent of the dairy cattle sent abroad were at least 2 years of age.

Mexico was by far the United States largest market for beef breeding cattle, taking 18,261 head--73 percent of the total of 25,059 inspected. Canada, Venezuela, and Cuba together accounted for 7,911 head; 21 other countries received small shipments in the 6-month period. Most of the minor beef cattle markets are in Latin America.

The best export market for dairy cattle in January-June 1957 also was Mexico, which took 5,294 head of the total of 7,125 head. Cuba, Venezuela, West Germany, and Canada led the 24 other, smaller markets.

## U.K.'s GRAIN CROP SMALLER

Grain production in the United Kingdom is somewhat less in 1957 than in 1956, on the basis of official estimates released early in November. Wheat production is reported at 98.6 million bushels, compared with 106.2 million in 1956. Though not up to the high level of last year, this is still well above average.

Oats production is also down from the 1956 level, with the current crop estimated at 144.7 million bushels, 17 percent less than last year. Both acreage and yields are less than in 1956.

Barley is the only grain showing an increase. The increase, however, is small, with production at 135.5 million bushels this year, compared with 130.7 million last year.

Fall seeding is reported to be well advanced with weather conditions favorable and moisture supplies satisfactory.

TUNISIA REVISES 1957  
GRAIN ESTIMATES

Tunisia's 1957 grain production is higher than reported earlier, according to latest official estimates. On the basis of the new estimates, production in 1957 is considerably above average, as well as larger than the small 1956 harvest. Wheat production is now reported at 22 million bushels, compared with earlier estimates of 20 million bushels. This is 25 percent above the small 1956 crop and 15 percent above the 1951-55 average.

Of the current crop, about 17 million bushels are durum and 5 million soft wheat. Reports indicate that a considerable part of this year's durum crop is of poor quality.

Barley production in 1957 is now placed at 11.1 million bushels, compared with 7.2 million in 1956 and the 1951-55 average of 7.5 million bushels. The basic net price to barley producers this year is the equivalent of \$1.13 per bushel, compared with \$1.04 in 1956. Net prices for durum wheat are the same as last year, \$2.40 per bushel, and soft wheat at \$2.05 is slightly less than it was last year.

Seeding for the 1958 grain harvest is proceeding under favorable conditions, with abundant and well distributed rains.

NORWEGIAN BUTTER AND  
CHEESE SITUATION

As forecast earlier (see Foreign Crops and Markets, June 3, 1957), Norwegian butter production this year is running well ahead of 1956. Factory butter production during the first 8 months of 1957 totaled 29.5 million pounds, almost 14 percent above the same period in 1956. Factory cheese production during January-August 1957 totaled 51.3 million pounds, 7 percent under the same period last year, and more of a decline than was previously forecast.

Butter stocks on July 1, 1957, were down to 6.6 million pounds from the 9.3 million pounds recorded a year earlier. Indications are that domestic consumption of butter is about the same as last year and the decreased stock figure is due almost entirely to a sharp rise in exports. During the first 6 months of 1957, butter exports totaled 7.6 million pounds, almost 3.5 times the export figure for the January-June 1956 period.

Cheese stocks on the other hand showed an increase from 16.1 million pounds on July 1, 1956, to 21.9 million pounds on July 1, 1957. Exports totaled 7.3 million pounds during January-June 1957, over twice the January-June 1956 figure. With production down, imports negligible, and exports up, the increased stock figure indicates that cheese consumption is down in Norway this year.

## CANADA REVISES GRAIN ESTIMATES

Latest revised estimates of Canada's 1957 grain crops show only minor revisions from the September forecast. New estimates recently released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on November 13 place Canada's wheat harvest at 373.5 million bushels, about 4 million bushels above the earlier forecast and only 65 percent of the 1956 production. Record carryover stocks, however, bring the total supply for the current season second only to record supplies of a year ago. Indicated supplies of 1,097 million bushels for 1957-58 are only 5 percent less than the 1956-57 record supply.

While the latest wheat estimate showed a slight increase, principal feed grain estimates dropped slightly. Production of oats is now placed at 384.6 million bushels and barley at 220.0 million bushels--4 and 3 million bushels, respectively, below the previous forecast. Production of oats is about one-fourth less than the large 1956 crop. Though carryover of oats is at a new high, total supply is less than the large supply last year.

The current barley harvest is estimated to be 18 percent less than 1956 production. Carryover stocks, though well above those of a year ago, are not large enough to offset the reduced crop, and total supplies for this season are 5 percent less than record supplies last year.

## CANADIAN JULY-SEPTEMBER WHEAT EXPORTS 18 PERCENT LOWER THAN YEAR AGO

Canadian wheat and flour exports during the first 3 months (July-September) of 1957-58 are estimated at 76 million bushels, compared with 92 million bushels (grain equivalent) in the same period a year ago. This is a decline of about 18 percent. The reduction is due almost entirely to much lower exports to markets in Western Europe, where an alltime record crop was harvested this year, and to greatly reduced exports to Czechoslovakia, the U.S.S.R., and Poland.

Official figures for September exports are not yet available. The estimate of 76 million bushels for July-September this year is based on official export figures for July-August, estimates of the Board of Grain Commissioners for September wheat exports, and preliminary customs returns for September flour exports.

Following are tentative estimates in millions of bushels of the quantities taken by indicated foreign outlets during July-September this year compared with a year ago, the latter shown in parentheses: United Kingdom, 27.5 (30.3); Japan, 13.4 (13.4); West Germany, 9.3 (11.8); Netherlands, 6.1 (3.7); Belgium, 5.2 (4.2); Czechoslovakia, 0 (4.4); U.S.S.R. negligible (4.1); Poland, 2.2 (2.6); United States, 2.0 (1.2); Philippine Republic 1.3 (1.8); Switzerland, 0.9 (2.8); and Norway 0.9 (2.0).

WHEAT AND FLOUR: Canadian exports by country of destination,  
July-August 1956 and July-August 1957

Destination	July-August 1956			July-August 1957		
	Wheat	Flour	Total	Wheat	Flour	Total
	- Thousand bushels, grain equivalent -					
Western Hemisphere:						
United States .....	515	176	691	1,262	247	1,509
Central America .....	19	231	250	53	216	269
British West Indies ..	4	988	992	2	682	684
Cuba .....	-	80	80	-	17	17
Venezuela .....	21	436	457	8	404	412
Ecuador .....	198	-	198	158	-	158
Peru .....	713	1	714	-	1	1
Others .....	-	300	300	-	189	189
Total .....	1,470	2,212	3,682	1,483	1,756	3,239
Europe:						
Norway .....	1,319	-	1,319	317	-	317
United Kingdom .....	18,308	2,234	20,542	16,653	1,881	18,534
Netherlands .....	2,774	3	2,777	3,334	-	3,334
Belgium-Luxembourg ...	3,205	82	3,287	4,466	59	4,525
France .....	361	-	361	1,325	-	1,325
West Germany .....	7,806	-	7,806	5,637	-	5,637
Czechoslovakia .....	4,371	-	4,371	-	-	-
Switzerland .....	1,614	-	1,614	904	1/	904
Poland .....	2,599	-	2,599	2,163	-	2,163
Russia .....	4,127	-	4,127	-	2	2
Others .....	2,092	66	2,158	923	25	948
Total .....	48,576	2,385	50,961	35,722	1,967	37,689
Asia:						
Philippines .....	-	1,541	1,541	-	880	880
Japan .....	7,831	206	8,037	9,142	164	9,306
Others .....	109	362	471	56	211	267
Total .....	7,940	2,109	10,049	9,198	1,255	10,453
Africa .....	589	346	935	188	165	353
Oceania .....	-	5	5	-	7	7
World total .....	58,575	7,057	65,632	46,591	5,150	51,741

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

## AUSTRALIA'S WHEAT PRODUCTION TO COVER DOMESTIC REQUIREMENTS

Australian Government officials have announced that the prospective wheat supply will cover the country's requirements for the marketing season beginning December 1, and allow some exports of wheat and flour. This statement was in answer to representations to the Commonwealth Government for imports of wheat to meet deficiencies in the most seriously affected drought areas in New South Wales and Queensland.

The government has decided, however, that for the time being, wheat will be brought to the deficit areas from the Australian states having a surplus. The small wheat crop now in prospect in Queensland is said to be sufficient to cover only two-thirds of that state's requirements for the coming season.

The small crop in prospect for New South Wales, together with stocks there, amounts to less than half that state's normal use. The Wheat Board is arranging to bring about 2 million bushels of wheat from Western Australia, which would bring supplies up to normal requirements for 6 months. Freight costs are estimated at about \$670,000. It has been decided that the states will be responsible for freight and handling charges on these movements of wheat rather than the Commonwealth Government assuming the charges--as had been requested by the governments of the deficit states.

Decisions as to ways of meeting possible later requirements for the country have not been announced. The Wheat Board recommends imports from overseas. Imports, of course, carry quarantine requirements that necessitate processing in metropolitan areas under conditions safeguarding against the possibility of introduction of disease or weeds.

Rains in many of the dry areas recently have halted deterioration of crops but were too late to actually increase crops materially. Pastures may, however, have benefited to an extent that will reduce the necessity of using wheat as feed.

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC COCOA BEAN EXPORTS UP

Cocoa bean exports by the Dominican Republic for the 1956-57 marketing season ending September 30, 1957, amounted to 52,246,948 pounds. This was a 45-percent increase over cocoa bean exports for 1955-56. All cocoa bean exports in both years were to the United States and Puerto Rico. The Dominican Republic also ships sizable quantities of cocoa products.

The cocoa bean crop for 1956-57 in the Dominican Republic is now estimated at about 79 million pounds, 6 millions pounds higher than the previous estimate. The increase is reportedly due mainly to excellent weather conditions.

COFFEE-PROCESSING COURSES  
GIVEN IN ETHIOPIA

Fifteen graduates from the Jimma Agricultural School and the Ambo Agricultural High School are studying coffee processing at the Jimma Agricultural Technical School in Ethiopia. These students upon completion of their training will become extension workers in the coffee-producing areas of Ethiopia. It is hoped that the quality of Ethiopian coffee can be improved through this extension work; some Ethiopian coffee which entered world trade during the 1956-57 year was rejected because of low quality.

AUSTRALIA FINDS NEW MARKETS  
FOR SHELL EGGS

Orders from Venezuela for 8,000 cases of Australian eggs have resulted from a recent trial shipment of 1,000 cases to that country, according to William McMahon, Minister for Primary Industry.

McMahon reports that both domestic and export sales of eggs have improved. This is in contrast to forecasts a few months ago that the poultry industry would suffer from increased production and the loss of the United Kingdom market.

ARGENTINA'S 1957-58 PEANUT CROP FORECAST AT  
NEW RECORD; SUNFLOWER CROP MAY BE DOWN

Argentina's 1957-58 peanut crop now being planted is expected to be even larger than the 1956-57 record outturn of 350,500 short tons, unshelled basis, which exceeds the previous harvest by almost one-half. As of the end of October about one-third of the last crop was still in the field to be threshed.

The 1957-58 sunflower crop, planted in October and November, is expected to be somewhat smaller than the 688,900 tons produced in 1956-57. Present stocks of both seed and oil are ample. Although a quota of 30,000 metric tons of sunflower and peanut oils was allowed for export, only a small portion had been exported as of late October.

Production of cottonseed oil will be somewhat lower this year due to a slightly smaller outturn of seed (232,800 tons in 1957-58, against 242,500 in 1956-57).

The planting of olive trees continues at a steady rate. Oil production in 1957 is placed at about 7,000 tons, compared with 4,000 in 1956. Exports in 1957 are estimated at 5,500 tons, against 3,000 in 1956.

# JAPAN'S COTTON IMPORTS HIGHEST IN 20 YEARS

Japan's cotton imports of 2,929,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during the August-July 1956-57 marketing season were 23 percent above 1955-56 imports of 2,376,000 bales, and the highest in 20 years. The previous high was 4,693,000 bales in August-July 1936-37.

Imports of United States cotton in 1956-57 also were the highest in 20 years--1,425,000 bales, or nearly half the total, compared with 768,000 bales and 32 percent in 1955-56. Other principal sources of Japan's cotton supply were Mexico, Pakistan, Brazil, India, and Egypt.

COTTON: Japan, imports by country of origin, average 1935-39,  
annual 1952-56

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1					
	Average	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1935-39					
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Afghanistan.....	1/	6:	17:	15:	7:	2
Argentina.....	1/	46:	80:	14:	2/	0
Brazil.....	203:	30:	210:	245:	161:	179
British East Africa.....	66:	31:	21:	10:	47:	26
Burma.....	1/	47:	49:	36:	19:	33
Egypt.....	140:	85:	93:	76:	111:	91
El Salvador.....	1/	0:	12:	23:	92:	47
India.....	3/1,251:	172:	68:	83:	262:	144
Iran.....	1/	19:	62:	26:	10:	14
Mexico.....	1/	503:	476:	489:	499:	616
Nicaragua.....	1/	8:	22:	25:	58:	15
Pakistan.....	3/	439:	311:	207:	270:	280
Paraguay.....	1/	11:	2:	9:	5:	1
Peru.....	1/	20:	12:	17:	20:	35
Sudan.....	1/	12:	1:	2:	8:	10
Syria.....	1/	1/	3:	4:	29:	5
Turkey.....	4/ 7:	2/	49:	1:	1/	1
United States.....	1,127:	625:	942:	753:	768:	1,425
Other countries.....	5/ 383:	1:	1:	2:	10:	5
Total.....	3,177:	2,055:	2,431:	2,037:	2,376:	2,929

1/ If any, included in other countries. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Pakistan included with India. 4/ 4-year average. 5/ China 232.

Source: All Japan Cotton Spinners Association; Monthly Return of the Foreign Trade of Japan.

Cotton consumption in Japan amounted to 2,750,000 bales in 1956-57, an increase of 19 percent over consumption of 2,312,000 bales in 1955-56. Higher domestic demand and larger exports of cotton products were principal factors in the increased cotton consumption.

Production of cotton yarn in August-July 1956-57 was 1,160 million pounds, an increase of 28 percent over production of 909 million pounds in 1955-56. Exports of cotton yarn in 1956-57 were 32 million pounds, an increase of 10 percent over exports of 29 million pounds in 1955-56.

Production of cotton fabrics in 1956-57 totaled 3,727 million square yards, an increase of 15 percent over production of 3,229 million in 1955-56. Exports of cotton fabrics were 1,369 million square yards in 1956-57, or 10 percent higher than exports of 1,250 million in 1955-56.

Exports of cotton yarn were 27 percent of total production in 1956-57. Those of cotton fabrics were 37 percent of total.

Cotton stocks on August 1, 1957, were estimated at 665,000 bales, up 37 percent from stocks of 485,000 bales held a year earlier. Some reduction of the stock level is anticipated in 1957-58 as the result of a cutback in the cotton import budget plan for the Japanese fiscal year April-March 1956-57. A deteriorating foreign exchange position has necessitated the reduction in cotton imports. The import budget now stands at 1,050,000 bales for April-September 1957; 1,160,000 bales for October-March 1957-58; or 2,210,000 bales for the April-March 1957-58 Japanese fiscal year.

Cotton prices in Japan trended generally upward in August-July 1956-57. Prices of United States cotton were at competitive levels with other growths throughout the year. C.i.f. quotations of comparable qualities for selected months were as follows:

COTTON: Japan, c.i.f. prices by month, August-July 1956 and 1957

(U. S. cents per pound)

Country of origin	Type or grade	1956		1957		
		Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May	July
United States.....	M 1-1/32"					
	Orl/Tex.....	30.22	32.08	32.31	32.38	32.84
United States.....	M 15/16"					
	Orl/Tex.....	27.78	29.20	29.11	29.50	29.94
Brazil.....	Type 5.....	37.18	37.20	35.11	34.71	36.14
India.....	Bengal Desi...	29.55	29.60	29.22	30.33	29.75
Mexico.....	Matamoros.....	31.74	34.25	35.20	34.38	34.15

Source: The Japan Cotton Traders' Association.

# CANADA'S COTTON CONSUMPTION UP IN OCTOBER BUT BELOW LAST YEAR

Canada's cotton consumption of 35,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during October 1957 represented a 17 percent increase over the use of 30,000 bales in September, but was 3 percent less than consumption of 36,000 bales in October 1956.

Consumption in the first 3 months, August-October, of the 1957-58 season amounted to 95,000 bales or 3 percent below last year's comparable figure of 98,000 bales.

## BRAZIL REDUCES PRICES FOR NORTH BRAZILIAN COTTON

The Government of Brazil through the Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil announced October 31, 1957, that minimum prices for North Brazilian cotton would be reduced from the minimum prices announced September 16. (Foreign Crops and Markets, November 4, 1957).

The revised schedule for four varieties, in U. S. cents per pound f.o.b. shipping port, follows:

Type	Serido <u>34/36 mm</u>	Sertao <u>32/34 mm</u>	Sertao <u>30/32 mm</u>	Matas <u>26/30 mm</u>
2	33.57	31.60	30.88	31.10
3	32.86	30.88	30.17	30.36
4	31.67	30.17	29.46	29.63
5	28.99	28.89	28.32	28.31
6	25.66	25.57	25.09	24.98
7	23.29	23.19	23.04	23.02
8	21.86	21.76	21.62	21.65
9	21.38	21.29	21.15	21.07

Countries with convertible or limited convertible currencies are allowed a 5 percent reduction from the above base prices. The effective exchange rate for Serido and Sertao varieties now becomes Cr\$67 per dollar to these areas. The rate for Matas is Cr\$65.00.

All other countries are required to pay a 5 percent premium on the base prices.

The Bank of Brazil reserves the right to refuse sales to all countries other than those with convertible and limited convertible currencies, unless in accord with provisions of the trade agreement with the buyer country.

All other provisions applying to sales of Northern lint remain as stated in the November 4 article of Foreign Crops and Markets.

## INDIA EXTENDS COTTON IMPORT LICENSES FROM STERLING AREAS

India has extended to December 31, 1957, the period for licensing and shipment of 50,000 bales (400 pounds gross) of sterling area cotton of 1 inch to 1-1/16 inches. Authorization for imports of this cotton was announced July 20, with shipment through September, later extended through October. As of November 6, only 21,500 bales had been licensed. Cotton to be imported under this category would come mostly from British East Africa.

## INDONESIA INCREASES COTTON IMPORTS

Indonesia's cotton imports of 36,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in August-July 1956-57 were 33 percent higher than the 27,000 bales imported in 1955-56, and continued the recent uptrend that has doubled cotton imports in the past 4 years. Nearly all cotton is imported from the United States.

Cotton consumption in 1956-57 was estimated at 35,000 bales, about 10 percent higher than the 32,000 bales consumed in 1955-56. This represents only a small portion of requirements, however, since Indonesia imports about 80 percent of its textile needs, mostly cotton fabrics.

Cotton production in Indonesia amounts to about 2,000 bales per year. Most production is in home yards and along the borders of fields. The cotton is used for handspinning and weaving. No major increase in this crop is expected, as rainfall is generally excessive for efficient cotton production. Cotton stocks on August 1, 1957, were estimated at 9,000 bales, compared with 6,000 held a year earlier.

## LEBANON ENCOURAGES PISTACHIO PLANTING

The Lebanese Government in its effort to introduce and encourage pistachio nut production has purchased 200,000 pistachio nut plants from Syria during the past year, making free distribution to cooperating farmers. The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that income from the production of pistachio nuts could amount to \$6.8 million in 10 years.

## U. S. IMPORTS OF FEEDER CATTLE RISE SHARPLY

United States imports of feeder cattle from both Canada and Mexico rose sharply during October. Over 91,500 head of feeders were passed for entry by the U. S. Department of Agriculture during October 1957 -- a large increase over the 13,600 head imported during October 1956. The largest increase has been in feeder cattle imported from Canada. These imports totaled 65,400 head during October, a 180-percent rise over September. Slaughter cattle imports from Canada during October were 17,400 head, 38 percent over September (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 18, 1957).

## TURKISH 1956-57 DRIED FIG EXPORTS UP

Exports of Turkish dried figs during 1956-57, totaling 15,869 short tons, were up about 18 percent from the 13,421-ton level of the preceding season. West Germany was the heaviest purchaser, taking 2,142 short tons, or 14 percent of Turkish dried fig exports. The United Kingdom ranked next with purchases aggregating 1,985 tons, or 12½ percent.

The United States continued to be the largest purchaser of Turkish fig paste during 1956-57. Turkish statistics show 2,737 tons shipped to the United States in that period. More than half of Turkish industrial fig exports were to Austria.

FIGS, DRIED: Turkish exports by country of destination,  
1954-56

Country of destination	Year beginning September 1		
	1954	1955	1956
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
United States.....	130	271	226
Belgium and Luxembourg.....	774	945	914
Denmark.....	987	895	1,038
France.....	402	1,440	1,495
Germany, West.....	1,436	1,618	2,142
Norway.....	1,594	274	595
Sweden.....	1,587	1,781	1,778
Switzerland.....	1,057	1,046	1,205
United Kingdom.....	1,810	2,008	1,985
Brazil.....	0	944	1,388
Other countries.....	3,363	2,199	3,103
Total.....	13,140	13,421	15,869

FIG PASTE: Turkish exports by country of destination,  
1954-56

Country of destination	Year beginning September 1		
	1954	1955	1956 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
United States.....	4,256	1,028	2,737
Canada.....	972	24	500
Ireland.....	281	---	---
United Kingdom.....	909	397	985
Other countries.....	1	---	104
Total.....	6,419	1,449	4,326

1/ Ten months, September-June.

## FIGS, INDUSTRIAL: Turkish exports by country of destination, 1954-56

Country of destination	Year beginning September 1		
	1954	1955	1956 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Austria.....	2,790	954	2,374
Czechoslovakia.....	2,423	331	--
Germany, West.....	248	683	986
Netherlands.....	711	--	--
Switzerland.....	--	234	507
Other countries.....	5	4	323
Total.....	6,182	2,206	4,190

1/ Ten months September-June.

CANADA REVISES ESTIMATES  
OF OILSEED CROPS

Estimates of Canada's 1957 flaxseed and sunflower seed crops have been revised downward, according to the November report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Rapeseed and soybean estimates are up.

## OILSEEDS: Canada, production, 1956 and 1957

Oilseed crop	Unit	1956	1957 1/	Percentage increase or decrease from 1956
Flaxseed.....	1,000 bu.	34,463	19,979	- 42
Soybeans.....	" "	5,301	6,524	+ 23
Rapeseed.....	1,000 lbs.	300,468	454,688	+ 51
Sunflower seed.....	" "	16,500	19,250	+ 17

1/ Preliminary.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

On the basis of the revised estimates, the flaxseed crop is still the second largest in the last 45 years, although down over 40 percent from last year's record crop.

Production of rapeseed in 1957 is 50 percent higher than last year's record output, thus making rapeseed Canada's second most important oilseed crop. The soybean crop also has established a new record, and the sunflower seed harvest is the largest since 1949. (For further details see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 18, 1957, and October 21, 1957.)

GREEK DRIED FIG EXPORTS  
UP IN 1956-57

Greek dried fig exports from September 1, 1956 through July 31, 1957, amounted to 16,769 short tons--8 percent greater than 15,587-ton exports in the preceding 12 months. The 11-month exports of dried figs accounted for substantially all the 1956 pack of dried exportable figs, with no stocks to be carried over into the 1957-58 marketing year.

West Germany continued to be the heaviest purchaser of Greek dried figs, taking 41 percent of all exports during the 11 months of the 1956-57 period reported, Austria was again the second largest market, followed by Egypt and the United States.

Country of destination	1954	1955	1956 <u>1/</u>
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
United States.....	2,254	1,828	1,754
Austria.....	2,812	2,410	2,049
France.....	381	237	439
Germany, East.....	--	--	654
Germany, West.....	6,882	6,155	6,919
Rumania.....	109	328	295
Switzerland.....	650	408	516
United Kingdom.....	471	--	218
Egypt.....	916	1,193	1,818
India.....	755	992	554
Tunisia.....	--	--	869
Other countries.....	1,484	2,036	685
Total.....	16,714	15,587	16,769

1/ Eleven months September-July

Unfavorable weather during harvest and the drying period has sharply reduced estimates for the 1957 dried fig pack. Production is now estimated at 19,000 short tons, or about two-thirds of the 1956 pack of 28,000 tons and 30 percent less than the 27,100-ton average for 1950-54.

According to the Greek trade, rejections of fig shipments to the United States during the 1956-57 marketing year averaged about 5 percent, compared with 7 percent during the 1955-56 marketing year.

# INDONESIA'S COPRA EXPORTS IN SEPTEMBER LOWEST OF YEAR

Indonesia's copra exports in September, preliminarily estimated at 9,670 long tons, gross weight, were nearly 80 percent below August shipments, which were the highest monthly exports of the year.

January-September copra exports, estimated at 185,662 long tons, were 13 percent higher than those of the first 7 months of 1956. Other September exports from Indonesia were: palm kernels--5,746 short tons; palm oil--19,739 short tons; and copra cake--9,855 long tons.

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